

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCAR 00152 150838Z

13

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 AEC-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07

INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 RSC-01 SAM-01

OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-01 TRSE-00 FRB-01 NIC-01 SAJ-01

/084 W

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R 150655Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1404

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 0152

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG ETRD EFIN RO UR COMECON

SUBJ: SOVIET-ROMANIAN AGREEMENT ON CONSTRUCTION OF  
ATOMIC POWER STATION

REF: A. MOSCOW 0095 NOTAL

B. BUCHAREST 4415 AND PREVIOUS NOTAL

1. DURING JAN 8 CALL ON IOAN URSU, PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL  
COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND OF STATE COMMITTEE  
FOR NUCLEAR ENERGY (SCNE), AMBASSADOR ASKED WHETHER  
RECENT ATOMIC ENERGY AGREEMENT (REF A) WAS INDEED NEW  
OR SOMEHOW RELATED TO SOVIET-ROMANIAN AGREEMENT OF SEVERAL  
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PAGE 02 BUCAR 00152 150838Z

YEARS AGO TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN CONSTRUCTING ENRICHED

URANIUM REACTOR. URSU SAID "NEW" AGREEMENT WAS ACTUALLY ONLY A PROTOCOL CONCERNING CARRYING OUT SOME PROVISIONS OF PREVIOUS AGREEMENT WHICH EMBASSY RECORDS DATE AS MARCH 1970. AMBASSADOR ALSO ASKED HOW DISCUSSIONS WERE GOING WITH CANADIANS ON HEAVY WATER TYPE REACTOR TO WHICH URSU REPLIED "WELL", RECALLING AT SAME TIME THAT DISCUSSIONS WERE TAKING PLACE WITH AMERICAN FIRMS AND OTHERS FOR SUPPLY OF SOME COMPONENTS. HE STRESSED AGAIN, AS HE HAS IN THE PAST, THE INCREASING ABILITY OF ROMANIA'S OWN INDUSTRY TO PROVIDE EQUIPMENT FOR NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS.

2. SCINTEIA ANNOUNCED DEC 31 THAT A "PROTOCOL TO THE GOR/USSR "ACORD" OF MAY 26, 1970 WAS SIGNED IN MOSCOW DEC 30 WITH REFERENCE TO THE INSTALLATION OF A NUCLEAR ELECTRIC CENTRAL OF 440,000 KW."

3. COMMENT: WE WOULD NOT SEE THIS PROTOCOL AS ESPECIALLY SIGNIFICANT IN ITSELF, ALTHOUGH LIKE EMBASSY MOSCOW WE HAVE BEEN WONDERING WHETHER ROMANIA MAY NOT BE SEEKING SOME SMALL WAYS OF DEMONSTRATING GREATER ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH CEMA AND THE USSR. WE HAVE NOT SEEN ANY SPECIFIC SIGNS AS YET, HOWEVER, AND THERE IS REPEATED EVIDENCE ROMANIA HAS IN FACT TRIED TO STALL THE SLATINA NUCLEAR POWER PROJECT WITH THE SOVIETS.

A. DR. ALEXANDRU OLARIU, GENERAL DIRECTOR OF R&D FOR SCNE, STATED CATEGORICALLY TO EMBOFF SOME MONTHS AGO THAT GOR WOULD NOT PURCHASE MORE SOVIET POWER PLANTS, AND OTHERS HAVE IMPLIED THE SLATINA PROJECT ITSELF WAS STILL INDEFINITE.

B. SOVEMBOFF POPOV TOLD EMBOFF JANUARY 7 THAT ROMANIANS HAD RAISED THE PROBLEM OF ADDITIONAL SAFETY MEASURES LEADING TO FRESH DELAYS IN SLATINA PROJECT. HE REMARKED THAT SOVIETS HAD OTHER FISH TO FRY IF ROMANIANS DID NOT SOON MAKE UP THEIR MINDS ABOUT THE PROJECT. THIS CONFLICTS SOMEWHAT WITH THE IMPLICATION OF URSU'S REMARKS ABOVE, AS WELL AS WITH TIMING OF VESTNIK AND SCINTEIA ARTICLES, BUT WE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 BUCAR 00152 150838Z

NOTE THE OBJECTIVE OF ROMDEL VISIT TO WESTINGHOUSE AND AEC (REF B) IS CONSISTENT WITH POPOV'S STATEMENT. SCNE OFFICIALS HERE DESCRIBE WESTINGHOUSE AND AEC VISITS AS "VERY INFORMATIVE AND USEFUL" BUT DECLINE TO GIVE DETAILS. AEC REPORT TO EMBASSY BUCHAREST WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

C. SOVEMBOFF POPOV ALSO SAID THAT V.A. KIRILLIN, CHAIRMAN OF SOVIET STATE COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE AND

TECHNOLOGY, WOULD ARRIVE ABOUT JAN 20 FOR TALKS TO  
COORDINATE GOR/USSR S&T COOPERATION DURING NEXT FIVE-YEAR  
PLAN. HE LATER SAID KIRILLIN VISIT WAS POSTPONED UNTIL  
FEBRUARY. URSU SHOWED COMPLETE SURPRISE AT SCIATT'S  
QUESTION WHETHER KIRILLIN ARRIVAL HAD ANY CONNECTION  
WITH SLATINA PROJECT OR NEW S&T INITIATIVES. HE  
CONVINCINGLY CLAIMED NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY SUCH PLANNED  
VISIT.  
BARNES

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## Message Attributes

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